



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Alexandria, Virginia

April 8, 1974

JAMES WALTER MC CORD, JR.;
BERNARD L. BAKER;
VIRGILIO R. GONZALES;
EUGENIO ROLANDO MARTINEZ Y CREAGA;
FRANK ANTHONY FIORINI;
BURGLARY OF DEMOCRATIC PARTY
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON, D. C.
JUNE 17, 1972

On April 4, 1974, Dr. Joseph Casolaro, home address Waterford, Virginia, telephone number 882-3517, and office address 921 North Wayne Street, Arlington, Virginia, telephone number 528-8805, voluntarily appeared at the Alexandria Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and furnished the following information:

Dr. Casolaro advised that he has been a practicing physician in Arlington for approximately 25 years. He stated he has a son, J. Daniel Casolaro, who resides at 11626 Pine Tree Drive, Fairfax, Virginia, telephone number 273-7614, who is 26 years of age and that his son is a free lance reporter. He stated that his son has written articles for the National Inquirer, and numerous trade magazines for the past three years and that approximately three months prior, he decided that he would like to branch out as an investigative reporter. Dr. Casolaro stated that his son's first attempt at being an investigative reporter was to do research on the possibility of prior knowledge of the Democrats on the break-in of the National Democratic Headquarters, Washington, D. C. He stated that his son first contacted the Senate Watergate Committee and was referred to an individual identified as Mr. Lanowet (phonetic),

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DATE 7/14/80 BY SP4 JRM/oms

139-4087-2728
ENCLOSURE

JAMES WALTER MC CORD, JR;
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who he stated is an investigative reporter for the National Observer. He stated his son contacted Mr. Lanowet and in turn was told to get in touch with a Mr. A. J. Wooten-Smith, Science Securities, 6th Avenue, New York City, New York. He stated his son then telephonically contacted Smith, who Dr. Casolaro stated was expecting his call and that Smith revealed to his son that he had an interest in the possibility that the Democrats had prior knowledge about the break-in and that he would be willing to assist J. Daniel in doing research in the matter. Dr. Casolaro stated that from subsequent telephonic contacts his son had with Smith he learned that approximately one month prior to the break-in Smith met with John Stewart, Democratic National Committee Communications Director in the Office of William Haddad, New York City, New York, and at this time they discussed the possibility that there would be surveillances on the Democratic National Headquarters. Dr. Casolaro stated his son also determined that the Democratic National Committee had been sent a letter by Smith in this regard, whereby he requested the meeting and though Smith promised to furnish his son with a copy of the letter, it has not been forthcoming.

Dr. Casolaro stated that in addition to the above meeting, Smith also advised his son that he had met a Mr. Regan, who he stated was an ex-FBI Agent who was a wire tap expert. He stated that when he met Regan, he (Regan) was employed by the Committee to Re-elect the President, and though Smith did not admit to this, he (Dr. Casolaro) deducted from his knowledge of the above meeting and the fact that Regan was employed by the Committee to Re-elect the President the Democrats must have known something was up. Dr. Casolaro stated that Smith additionally indicated to his son that the word was out prior to the break-in on James Mc Cord's attempts to purchase bugging equipment

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which he feels certainly makes the possibility that the Democrats were aware that a break-in would occur more evident. Dr. Casolaro had no further information to offer.

Dr. Casolaro advised that his son has not personally ever met A. J. Wooten-Smith. He stated though that his son is excellent at obtaining information and did not consider it unusual that he could develop this information without ever meeting A. J. Wooten-Smith. He further stated that Smith continues to contact his son for progress reports and that Smith neither appears to want credit nor is looking for financial gain from his assistance.

Dr. Casolaro advised that previous to his attempt to furnish his information to the Arlington County, Virginia, Police Department, he had also been in contact with Senator Howard Baker's Office, (first name unknown) Shapiro, who he identified as a law partner of Charles Colson, and numerous other individuals on Capital Hill whom he did not readily recall. He stated that none of these individuals he contacted about the possibility of prior knowledge on the break-in, pursued the matter with him. Dr. Casolaro related that his son also attempted to sell his story to the National Inquirer and to Mr. Lobe, who is the owner of a Manchester, New Hampshire, newspaper, but was turned down by both for lack of sufficient information.

Dr. Casolaro made it a point to state that he is in no way suffering from any mental disorder nor that he is playing partisan politics. He stated that his reason for furnishing this information is as a good citizen in an attempt to protect the Office of the President. He also stated that he hoped that FBI efforts would bring this information into the open. Dr. Casolaro advised that his son, J. Daniel Casolaro, was not aware of his visit to the FBI and did not consider it feasible to contact him in this matter.

FBI

Date: 4/8/74

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (139-4089)

FROM: SAC, ALEXANDRIA (139-18) (RUC)

JAMES WALTER MC CORD, JR.;
ET AL
BURGLARY, DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL
COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON, D. C.
6/17/72
IOC
(OO:WFO)

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DATE 7/24/80 BY SP4JRM/DmJ

Enclosed for the Bureau are five copies of an LHM dated and captioned as above. New York and WFO are being furnished one copy each of LHM for indexing and possible future reference.

11626 PINE TREE DRIVE,
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA
B. APPROX 1948
Alexandria indices are negative on A. J. WOOTEN-SMITH, WILLIAM HADDAD, Dr. JOSEPH CASOLARO and J. DANIEL CASOLARO, all referred to in the LHM.

Dr. JOSEPH CASOLARO, whose interview appears in the LHM, initially went to the Arlington County, Virginia, Police Department to furnish his information on captioned matter. Detective MILTON SKINNER, Arlington County, Virginia, Police Department referred Dr. CASOLARO to the Alexandria FBI Office.

②-Bureau (Enc 5)
1-New York (Enc 1)
1-WFO (Enc 1)
1-Alexandria
WAL:mew
(5)

2-SPF by LHM 4/12/74
1-2243 T
1-file destroyed
JJC/mm
4/12/74
EX-110

21 APR 10 1974

Approved: K/JS
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

F B I

Date: 4/30/74

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (139-4089)

FROM: SAC, ALEXANDRIA (139-18) (RUC)

JAMES WALTER MC CORD, JR.;
ET AL
BURGLARY, DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL
COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERS,
WASHINGTON, D.C.,
6/17/72
IOC
OO:WFO

REC-107

TVC

Re Alexandria airtel with LHM, 4/8/74.

On April 29, 1974, Dr. JOSEPH CASOLARO, who furnished information contained in referenced LHM, telephonically contacted the Alexandria Office to obtain a status report on the FBI's investigation on the possibility of prior knowledge of the Democrats in connection with captioned burglary. He further desired to give lead possibilities on deductions he has arrived at such as the Cubans being involved being double agents, the policeman who discovered the break-in being part of a plot and the possibility that bankers, one of which he identified as BEN WINTER, First National City Bank of New York, might have divulged financial information on the Committee to Re-Elect the President. He arrived at these deductions through conversations with his son, J. DANIEL CASOLARO, who is persuing these areas as an investigative reporter.

- 2 - Bureau
- 1 - New York (Info)
- 1 - WFO (139-166) (Info)
- 1 - Alexandria

WAL:clh
(5)

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DATE 7/14/20 BY SP4 JRM/DMS

REC 107

14 MAY 2 1974

AX 139-18

Dr. CASOLARO also commented that his son's prior knowledge story has been sold to the National Star (tabloid), New York City, New York, and that it should appear in a forthcoming issue.

Dr. CASOLARO was advised that appropriate action, if any, was taken on information he furnished on 4/8/74.

Information to date has been based on speculation by Dr. CASOLARO with no facts furnished to back up his deductions. It is further noted that he does not desire that his son be contacted since it would retard his work as an investigative reporter. It would appear that Dr. CASOLARO is attempting to "drum up" FBI investigation in the prior knowledge aspect to give credence to his son's story, and therefore, no further action is deemed appropriate until such time as factual information is brought to FBI attention.

F B I

Date: 8/5/74

REC-106

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority)

Assoc. Dir.	_____
Dep.-A.D.-Adm.	_____
Dep.-A.D.-Inv.	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Admin.	_____
Comp. Syst.	_____
Ext. Affairs	_____
Files & Com.	_____
Gen. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Inspection	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Plan. & Eval.	_____
Spec. Inv.	_____
Training	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director Sec'y	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (139-4089)

FROM: SAC, WFO (139-166) (P)

JAMES WALTER MC CORD, JR.;
ET AL;
BURGLARY,
Democratic National Committee
Headquarters, Washington, D.C.
6/17/72
IOC; PERJURY; OCJ, CONSPIRACY
(CC:WFO)

On 8/5/74, an individual who identified himself as DAN CASOLARO, telephonically contacted SA JOHN A. RUHL and advised that he is a free lance writer and author who resides at 11626 Pine Tree Drive, Fairfax, Virginia, telephone 273-7614.

CASOLARO explained that he is developing the theory that HOWARD HUNT had "set-up" the Watergate Break-in in an effort to embarrass the White House. In his effort to encourage an investigation of this theory, he has been in touch with JAMES NEAL of the Watergate Special Prosecution Office and DONALD CAMPBELL, AUSA.

CASOLARO based his theory on two letters (of which he has copies) to the Democratic National Committee dated 3/23/72 and 4/28/72 predicting Watergate break-in type activity.

2- Bureau / T.M. 2244
1- WFO

JAR:mrh
(3)

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Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

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WFO 139-166

CASOLARO ~~also~~ advised that since he has already been in touch with the SPC, it would be appropriate to furnish that office with any information pertinent to the Watergate investigation and related matters.

CASOLARO expressed interest in determining whether any investigation had been conducted to prove or disapprove his theories and he was informed that the FBI would not make a comment on an inquiry of this type which would relate to an ongoing investigation.